IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

: Confirmation No. 2724

Rajendra K. Bera

: Group Art Unit: 2121

Serial No.: 09/839,071

: Examiner:

Filed: April 20, 2001 For:

: Docket No.: JP919990183US1

METHOD, COMPUTER SYSTEM AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR DETERMINING THE EQUIVALENCE OF TWO BLOCKS OF

ASSIGNMENT STATEMENTS

Received

APPOINTMENT OF ATTORNEY

FEB 0 1 2002

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

The undersigned attorney, who has been appointed as an attorney in the Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney for the above-identified application, hereby appoints the following [of International Business Machines Corporation, Almaden Research Center, 650 Harry Road, San Jose, California 95120, telephone number (408) 927-3360] his associate attorneys to prosecute said application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

T. Rao Coca (Reg. No. 29,784), Thomas R. Berthold (Reg. No. 28,689), Daniel E. Johnson (Reg. No. 37,033), Marc D. McSwain (Reg. No. 44,929), Alison D. Mortinger (Reg. No. 39,306), Khanh Q. Tran (Reg. No. 41,352)

Please direct all official communications to T. Rao Coca, at the address cited above.

Manny Schecter

Reg. No. 31,722

Tel.: (914) 945-3252

Respectfully submitted, Attorney for the Applicant(s)

IBM Corporation Intellectual Property Law Department P. O. Box 218 Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

1/23/02

Fax: 914-945-3281